

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6765**

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 372

**NOTE PREPARED:** Dec 30, 2009

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Minimum Turnout for Local Public Questions.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Tallian

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**     **GENERAL**  
                              **DEDICATED**  
                              **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** Local

**Summary of Legislation:** The bill provides that at least 15% of the registered voters must vote in an election that includes a local public question on the ballot in order for the county election board (CEB) to certify the election results for the local public question.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2010.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** *Summary:* Under current law, some public questions, if they fail, cannot be reintroduced for a period of time. With respect to gambling issues allowing the establishment of riverboats or pari-mutuel wagering, failing public questions cannot be re-introduced for two years. With respect to education referendums, the grace period is generally one year before the question can be reintroduced. In other areas of law, the grace period length is various or there are no restrictions.

The amount of local bonding and leasing expenditures could be reduced if public questions involving new capital projects failed as a result of this provision.

**Background:** The following table shows the outcome of three countywide referendums conducted on November 3, 2009.

<b>Table: Countywide Referenda Results November 3, 2009</b>							
<b>County</b>	<b>Referendum Description</b>	<b>Registered Voters at 2008 General Election*</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent of Registered Voters</b>	<b>Achieve 15% of Reg. Voters (Y/N)</b>
<b>Marion</b>	Wishard Hospital Bond/Lease	697,559	56,706	9,872	66,578	9.5%	NO
<b>Porter</b>	Creation of Regional Transportation District	112,811	3,122	12,255	15,377	13.6%	NO
<b>St. Joseph</b>	Creation of Regional Transportation District	198,291	1,053	19,333	20,386	10.3%	NO
*Based on most recent registration data available from the Indiana Election Division.							

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:**

**Local Agencies Affected:** County election boards, school corporations, municipalities, various other local jurisdictions.

**Information Sources:** Indiana Election Division.

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